

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data communication apparatus for receiving a
command from an external information processing
terminal, transmitting a response for the received
5 command to said information processing terminal and
executing a process corresponding to the command,
comprising:

status monitor means for monitoring apparatus
status; and

10 means for transmitting information on the
apparatus status upon transmission of said response in
accordance with the status monitoring by said status
monitor means.

15 2. A data communication apparatus according to
Claim 1 wherein the information on the apparatus status
is information indicating a change of the apparatus
status.

20 3. A data communication apparatus according to
Claim 1 further comprising:

storage means for storing the apparatus status
detected by said status monitor means and information
indicating whether the apparatus status has been
25 changed or not;

wherein the information on the apparatus status is
transmitted when the information indicating the change

of the apparatus status has occurred is stored in said storage means upon the transmission of said response.

4. A data communication apparatus according to
5 Claim 1 wherein said response includes information indicating whether said command is to be accepted or not.

5. A data communication apparatus according to
10 Claim 1 wherein the information on the apparatus status is information on the apparatus status detected by said status monitor means.

6. A data communication apparatus according to
15 Claim 2 wherein a status request command for requesting the transmission of information on the apparatus status from said information processing terminal is received, and in response to said status request command, the information on the apparatus status detected by said
20 status monitor means is transmitted.

7. A data communication apparatus according to
Claim 5 wherein the information on the apparatus status includes information on status of a data input unit in
25 said data communication apparatus, information on status of a data output unit and information on operation status of said data communication apparatus.

8. A data communication apparatus according to Claim 6 wherein a response indicating the absence of status information to be noticed is transmitted to said information processing terminal when there is no change
5 in the apparatus status upon the reception of the status request command.

9. A data communication apparatus according to Claim 3 wherein said status monitor means periodically
10 monitors the change of the apparatus status, and upon detection of the change of the apparatus status, stores information indicating the change of the apparatus status in said storage means.

15 10. A processing method in an information processing terminal for transmitting a command to cause a data communication apparatus to execute a desired process and receiving a response indicating whether said command is acceptable or not from said data
20 communication apparatus, comprising the steps of:

detecting whether information indicating a change in the data communication apparatus status has occurred is included in said response or not; and

recognizing the data communication apparatus
25 status in accordance with a result of the detection.

11. A process method according to Claim 10

wherein a status request command for requesting the
transmission of information on the data communication
apparatus status is transmitted in accordance with the
result of the detection, information on the apparatus
5 status transmitted from said data communication
apparatus is received in response to the status request
command, and the data communication apparatus status is
recognized in accordance with the received information.

10 12. A process method according to Claim 10
wherein a command is transmitted to said data
communication apparatus in accordance with a request
from a terminal of a local area network.

15 13. A process method according to Claim 11
wherein the data communication apparatus status
information is stored in a memory, and the data
communication apparatus status is displayed in
accordance with the stored status information.

20 14. A process method according to Claim 13
wherein the status information of said memory is
updated based on the received status information.

25 15. A storage medium containing a program
executable by a computer for transmitting a command to
cause a data communication apparatus to execute a

desired process and receiving a response indicating whether said command is acceptable by said data communication apparatus or not, comprising the steps of:

5 detecting whether information indicating a change in the data communication apparatus status has occurred is included in said response or not; and

 recognizing the data communication apparatus status in accordance with a result of the detection.

10

16. A storage medium according to Claim 15 further comprising the steps of:

 transmitting a status request command for requesting the transmission of information on the data
15 communication apparatus status in accordance with the result of the detection;

 receiving information on the apparatus status transmitted from said data communication apparatus in response to the status request command; and

20 recognizing the data communication apparatus status in accordance with the received information.

17. A storage medium according to Claim 15 further comprising the step of:

25 transmitting a command to said data communication apparatus in accordance with a request from a terminal of a local area network.

18. A storage medium according to Claim 15
further comprising the step of:

storing the data communication apparatus status
information in a memory, and displaying the data
5 communication apparatus status in accordance with the
stored status information.

19. A storage medium according to Claim 18
further comprising the step of:

10 updating the status information of said memory
based on the received status information.